

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are pending in the application. By this Amendment, Claims 1 and 15 are amended. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the following Remarks.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the courtesies extended to Applicant's representative during the October 23, 2008 telephone Interview. The sum and substance of the Interview is contained in the above Amendment and following Remarks.

The Office action rejects Claims 1-3, 7-12 and 21-26 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over Kardauskas (U.S. Patent No. 5,994,641, hereinafter "Kardauskas"), Claims 1-3, 7-12, 15-17 and 21-26 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over Cole (U.S. Patent No. 6,008,449, hereinafter "Cole"), Claims 4-6, 13, 18-20 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Kardauskas in view of Epstein et al. (U.S. Published Application No. 2003/0058552, hereinafter "Epstein"), Claims 14 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Kardauskas in view of Glenn (U.S. Patent No. 6,313,396, hereinafter "Glenn"), Claims 4-6, 13, 18-20 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Cole in view of Epstein, and Claims 14 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Cole in view of Glenn. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

As discussed during the Interview, there is no teaching or suggestion in Kardauskas or Cole of at least the feature of an interconnection pattern comprising an edge connector and a series string, the series string in electrical contact with pads located on a same side of each solar cell such that electrical current from each solar cell is transported to the edge connector, as recited in Claims 1 and 15. It is respectfully submitted that Epstein and Glenn add nothing to overcome this shortcoming in Kardauskas or Cole.

For at least this reason, Claims 1 and 15 are allowable over the applied art, taken singly or in combination. Claims 2-14, which depend from Claim 1, and Claims 16-28,

which depend from Claim 15, are likewise allowable over the applied art, taken singly or in combination. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application is earnestly solicited.

Should Examiner Trinh believe anything further would be desirable in order to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

It is believed that any additional fees due with respect to this paper have already been identified. However, if any additional fees are required in connection with the filing of this paper, permission is given to charge account number 07-0868 in the name of General Electric Company.

24 November 2008

Respectfully submitted,

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